

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-13 and 15-20 are pending in this application. As indicated above, Claim 1 has been amended. It is gratefully acknowledged that the Examiner has allowed Claims 11-13 and 15-20.

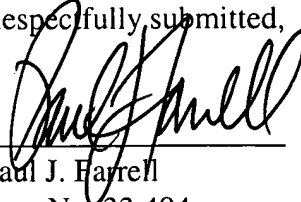
In the Office Action, as the Examiner has now rejected Claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. More specifically, the Examiner takes issue with the recitation “according to whether data stored in the flash memory contains errors.” That is, the Examiner asserts that the specification enables copying program data stored in the flash memory according to whether data stored in the flash memory is validated, not specifically if it contains errors. Therefore, as indicated above, Claim 1 has been amended to recite “an interface circuit for copying program data stored in the flash memory according to whether data stored in the flash memory is valid ~~contains errors~~”. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the amendment to Claim 1 overcomes the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, and it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Additionally, as the Examiner has provided no other rejection regarding Claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 1 is in condition for allowance.

Without conceding the patentability per se of dependent Claims 2-10, it is respectfully submitted that they are believed to be allowable by virtue of their dependence on Claim 1. As indicated above, it is gratefully acknowledged that the Examiner has allowed Claims 11-13 and 15-20.

Accordingly, Claims 1-13 and 15-20 are now believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicant's attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul J. Farrell", is written over a horizontal line.

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